

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-10

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R 230905Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION ZANZIBAR INFO DAR ES SALAAM JAN 22
REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

QTE

JAKARTA 0925

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN PFOR TZ ID

SUBJ: CLOVE SMUGGLING PLOT

REF: JAKARTA 0476, ZANZIBAR 21

FOLLOWING ARE TRANSLATED EXCERPTS SINAR HARAPAN STROY DATE-LINED
JANUARY 11

1. BEGIN TEXT. QUOTE. JAKARTA JAN 11(SH)--THE CLOVE SMUGGLING
TO INDONESIA THROUGH SINGAPORE WAS ORGANIZED BY A SMUGGLING
SYNDICATE AND MASTERMINDED BY H AND THE S G BROTHERS WHO WERE
ALSO INVOLVED SMUGGLING LUXURIOUS CARS TWO YEARS AGO. SINCE THEN
THEY HAVE BEEN PURSUED BY THE POLICE, INFORMED SOURCES TOLD SH
(SINAR HARAPAN).

2. IN 1972 ALI SAID(IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHIEF OF THE ANTI-
SMUGGLING SUB TEAM BAKOLAK IMPRES NO 6/11) AND MILITARY COMMAN-
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DER OF 'DIPOGONORO' (CENTRAL JAVA) MAJOR GENERAL TNI WIDODO HAD

TOLD SH THAT H, THE SMUGGLER, WAS STILL HIDING. HE HAD THEN LEFT INDONESIA DN STAYED IN SINGAPORE WITH HIS FAMILY AFTER HE SUCCESSFULLY AVOIDED INVESTIGATION AGAINST SUSPECTED SMUGGLING OF HUNDEREDS OF CARS THROUGH THE PORT OS SEMARANG(CENTRAL JAVA).

3.THE ANTI SMUGGLING TEAM WAS ASTONISHED BY THE FACT THAT A FUGITIVE LIKE H COULD SUDDENLY HAVE SHOWN UP AT JALAN MANGGA BESAR (JAKARTA) AND LATER MATERMINDED THE CLOVES SMUGGLING TO INDONESIA.

4. ABOUT 73.50 TONS OF CLOVES HIDDEN IN 1,472 SACKS (VALUED ABOUT RP 294 MILLIONS/APPROXIMATELY \$700.000) WERE SHIPPED ON DECEMBER 18, 1974 FROM SINGAPORE BY CARGO SHIP MS 'SEA HERO' WHICH WAS REGISTERED UNDER THE PANANAMIAN FLAG.

5. THE SHIP ARRIVED AT TANJUNG PRIOK BEFORE CHIRSTMAS, BUT THE CARGO WAS NOT UNLOADED UNTILJANUARY 3, 1975. THE SMUGGLED CLOVES, PACKED IN PLASTIC BAGS, AND COVERED WITH JUTE BAGS, WERE FOUND IN CONTAINERS.

6. THE CARGO WAS SHIPPED BY THE INTERNATIONAL SUPPLIER COMPANY, ORCHARD ROAD, SINGAPORE, AND THE DESTINATION ADDRESS WAS THE AMERICAN EMBASSY (USIS), JALAN MERDEKA SELATAN, JAKARTA. ACCORDING TO THE BILL OF LADING THERE WERE EIGHT CONTAINERS OF BOOKS AND DRAWING PAPERS FOR USIS LIBRARY. THE TOTAL WEIGHT WAS 63 TONS.

7. THE SEA CARGO EXPEDITION'S COMPANY (EMKL-EKSPEDISI MUATAN KAPAL LUAT) IN CHAGE OF DISPATCHING THE CARGO WAS EMKL 'MS' WHILE THE FORWARDING COMPANY WAS NAMED AS PV. THE EMKL WAS ALREADY KNOWN BY THE US EMBASSY, SINCD THE COMPANY HAD, IN THE PAST, TAKEN CARE OF THE DELIVERY OF TH EMBASSY'S USUAL CARGOES FOR THEIR NEEDS IN INDONESIA.

8. THE EIGHT CONTAINERS SMUGGLED INTO INDONESIA WERE DISPATCHED FROM TANJUNG PRIOK TO THE MS COMPANY WAREHOUSE AT JALAN GUNUNG SAHARI XIII/14, JAKARTA. ON JANUARY 4 AND 5 THE CONTAINERS WERE OPENED UP, AND THE BAGS OF SMUGGLED CLOVES WERE PUT INTO TRUCKS HEADING FOR CENTRAL JAVA. AT THAT VERY MOMENT THE SMUGGLERS WERE ACTUALLY UNDER POLICE SURVEILLANCE AND WERE SOON ARRESTED.

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9. AT FIRST THE POLICE HESITATED TO BREAK OPEN THE OTHER CONTAINER SINCE IT WAS COVERED BY A DOCUMENT FROM THE US EMBASSY WHICH HAD DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY. BUT WITH THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE OFFICIALS OF CUSTOMS OFFICE, ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE, POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS, FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, AND US EMBASSY, ON JAN 9 ALL CONTAINERS WERE OPENED. THUS THE SMUGGLED CLOVES WERE DISCOVERED IN ALL THE CONTAINERS.

10. IT IS TRUE THAT THE US EMBASSY HAS ORDERED MATERIALS FOR USIS, BUT THEY HAVE NOT ARRIVED YET. THE SINGAPORE-BASED SMUGGLING SYNDICATE HAD ORGANIZED THE OPERATION IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE EIGHT CONTAINERS SEEMED TO BE OWNED BY USIS.

11. THE SMUGGLING, DESCRIBED BY THE AUTHORITIES AS 'VERY CUNNING', HAD BEEN SUSPECTED FOR A LONG TIME. IN EARLY DECEMBER THE INDONESIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICE HAD ALREADY KNOWN THAT THERE WERE 550 TONS OF CLOVES IN SINGAPORE, JUST IMPORTED FROM ZANZIBAR. THERE WAS A STRONG BELIEF THEN, THAT 'IT WOULD BE SMUGGLED INTO INDONESIA', A HIGH-RANKING INTELLIGENCE OFFICER TOLD SH.

12. CLOVES HAD BEEN 'SPORADICALLY' SMUGGLED INTO INDONESIA, HIDDEN INSIDE 'IMPORTED POSTAL PARCELS,' BUT SO FAR THE AUTHORITIES WERE ABLE TO DETECT THEM BEFORE TAKEN AWAY BY THE OWNERS FROM THE GENERAL POST OFFICE AT PASAR BARU, JAKARTA OR HALIM PERDANAKUSUMA AIRPORT. CLOVES WERE ALSO SMUGGLED BY "PETTY BUSINESSWOMEN" WHO COVERED UP THEMSELVES AS PASSANGERS ON SHIPS LEAVING TANJUNG PINANG (RIO ISLANDS) AND SINGAPORE FOR JAKARTA AS THEIR FINAL DESTINATION...

13. THE US EMBASSY IN JAKARTA WAS SHOCKED WHEN POLICE TOLD THEM ABOUT THE SMUGGLING. PRESS ATTACHE OF THE EMBASSY, JERRY KYLE, SAID 'WE REALLY HAVE NO IDEA ABOUT IT. WE JUST KNEW IT WHEN INDONESAN AUTHORITIES CONTACTED US TWO DAYS AGO. AND OUR FIRST REACTION WAS TO COOPERATE AND HELP THE INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES.

14. UNTIL FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MR KYLE COULD NOT GIVE ANY INFORMATION ON WHETHER THE EMBASSY'S BILL OF LADING FORMS WERE ACTUALLY STOLEN AND MISUED, OR LATER FRADUANTLY CHANGED..

15. MR KYLE SAID THAT AN ADMINISTATIVE OFFICER OF THE EMBASSY TOGETHER WITH THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OF THE INDONESIAN FOREIGN DEPARTMENT HAS WITNESSED THE OPENING-UP OF THE CONTAINERS AND SEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE CONTENTS. END OF QUOTE. END TEXT.

16. INDONESIAN ORSERVER ARTICLE IS BRIEFER AND LESS COMPLETE VERSION SINAR HARAPAN STORY BUT GIVES SAME GENERAL GREATMENT.

17. AS CONSULATE MAY BE AWARE INDONESIA BUYS MOST OF ITS CLOVE IMPORTS FROM ZANZIBAR FOR USE IN POPULAR 'KRETEK' CIGARETTES. CASE ATTRACTED PRESS INTEEST HERE BECAUSE ONE OF INDONESIA 'S TWO LICENSED CLOVE IMPORTERS IS YOUNGER BROTHER PRESIDENT SUHARTO. NEWSOM

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NESOM

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